UMass Lowell Athletic Office
One University Avenue
Lowell, MA 01854

More than you remember...

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Something amazing is happening in Lowell. People who have been here all their lives are watching it. People who haven't been here for a while may have heard about it. And people who haven't seen it or heard about it are in for a surprise!

The latest chapter in the story of Lowell's successful revival could be titled Teamwork: UMass Lowell and the City. Together, they are transforming a part of the city between the Merrimack River's big bend, near the University's North Campus, and the Northern Canal, which flows past the Wannalancit mill complex.

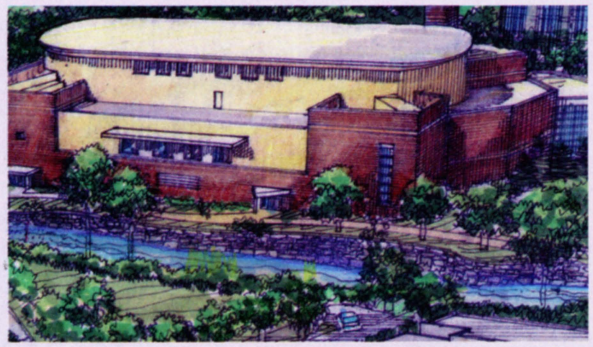
These partners have joined hands to build two new civic structures for everyone to enjoy: The Paul E. Tsongas Arena and the Edward A. LeLacheur Park. Coming soon is a multi-purpose Campus Center. These buildings will provide places for athletics, the arts, educational and commercial events, festivals, conferences, and more.

The arena and park will serve UMass Lowell hockey, baseball, and football, as well as the minor-league Lowell Lock Monsters of the American Hockey League and the Lowell Spinners, a Boston Red Sox minor-league affiliate in the New York-Penn League. The Paul E. Tsongas Arena opens January 27, 1998, and Edward A. LeLacheur Park will open a few months later for summer baseball.

The multi-purpose Campus Center will be constructed by the University across the street from the park. Linking the entire redeveloped area is the River Walk, a lighted and landscaped pathway along the south bank of the Merrimack, running from the Boott Cotton Mills Museum of Lowell National Historical Park to the University campus.

With these exciting improvements, the University and city are defining the future they will share. They're building a better community in which to learn, live, work, and play. They're strengthening their resources by investing in the talented people and distinctive environment of Lowell.

If you have been watching the positive changes going on or if you have not been back to the area for a while, please join us for a special celebration, "First Night. Tsongas Arena.," as we celebrate the opening of a great new gathering place for the University, the community, and our friends.



Paul E. Tsongas Arena

Get ready. This winter, River Hawk hockey comes home for the first time in more than 25 years. Rising on the bank of the Merrimack River, the Tsongas Arena is a 6,300 multi-purpose facility that will be the home of the UMass Lowell hockey program and the minor-league Lowell Lock Monsters, as well as the setting for an array of activities including arts and entertainment events, family shows, public skating, conferences, festivals, commencement activities, industrial expos, and trade shows. Named for the late Paul E. Tsongas, the arena symbolizes his lifelong commitment to improving the quality of life for people in Lowell and throughout our country. From the Lowell City Council to the United States Senate to the presidential campaign trail, his dedication to public service and the public good is an example to be honored.

First Night · January 27, 1998 · Tsongas Arena

4:30 p.m.
UMass Lowell Student Celebration and Spirit Bonfire

An indoor cookout, music by the group Cottonmouth outside at the bonfire, and a parade to the arena led by the UMass Lowell Pep Band.

Fox Dining Hall and adjacent parking area

5:00 p.m.
UMass Lowell Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni Social

Refreshments and entertainment for everyone as a warm-up for the opening night festivities at the arena.

Brewery Exchange, 199 Cabot Street (in the glow of the Arena)

Edward A. LeLacheur Park

Lowell is a legendary sports city, and there's no better place for top-notch college baseball and football or minor-league ball to be played. The community's new ballpark, set to open in June, 1998, will host UMass Lowell River Hawk baseball, River Hawk football, and the summer season of the Lowell Spinners of the New York-Penn League. The 4,700-seat stadium looks out over the Merrimack, where the river turns and widens as it heads toward the sea—a terrific place to see a game. The park is named for one of the city's longstanding public servants, Massachusetts state Representative Edward A. LeLacheur, whose distinguished career has been capped by this tribute.

Event Schedule

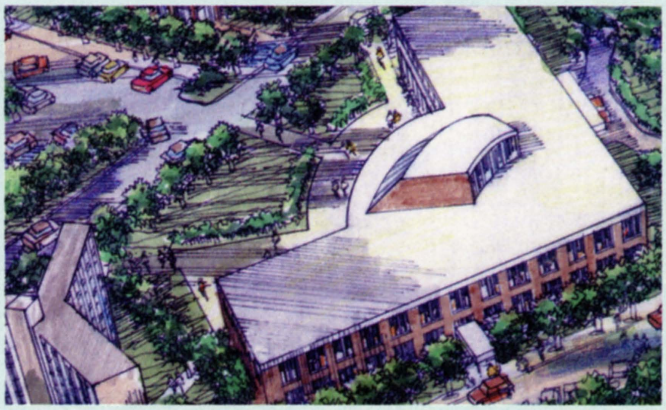
6:45 p.m.
Ceremonial Dropping of the First Puck

Opening ceremonies for the Paul E. Tsongas Arena, with public officials and special guests.

7:00 p.m.
Laser Light Show, indoor blimp, children's events, games, and prizes

7:10 p.m.
River Hawks vs. Dartmouth College

Tickets: Adults ($8), Students ($4)



UMass Lowell Campus Center

In September of 2000, the University will open a 70,000-foot facility that will not only meet the recreational needs and interests of the University community but also will provide a focal point for coming together in ways that further enrich life on campus. Located across the street from LeLacheur Park, the Center will complement the other new sports and event centers being added to the campus this year. Combined with the Tsongas Arena and LeLacheur Park, this facility enlarges the University's presence in an area linking downtown Lowell to the campus.

The River Walk

Connecting the heart of Lowell's city life with the growing University campus, the River Walk is a key link in the area's overall development plan. This ambitious project extends the concept of the Canalway, a system of paths along the city's canals, to the banks of the Merrimack River. The walkway stretches from the Boott Cotton Mills Museum in the downtown historic district to the edge of UMass Lowell's North Campus, providing easy access to the arena, baseball park, and recreation center.